Source <https://happygitwithr.com/new-github-first#new-github-first>

15 New project, GitHub first

We create a new Project, with the preferred “GitHub first, then RStudio” sequence. Why do we prefer this? Because this method of copying the Project from GitHub to your computer also sets up the local Git repository for immediate pulling and pushing. Under the hood, we are doing git clone.

You’ve actually done this before during set up (chapter [12](https://happygitwithr.com/rstudio-git-github#rstudio-git-github)). We’re doing it again, *with feeling*.

The workflow is pretty similar for other repository managers like GitLab or Bitbucket. We will specify below when you may need to do something differently.

15.1 Make a repo on GitHub

Go to [https://github.com](https://github.com/) and make sure you are logged in.

Near “Repositories”, click the big green “New” button. Or, if you are on your own profile page, click on “Repositories”, then click the big green “New” button.

How to fill this in:

* Repository template: No template.
* Repository name: myrepo or whatever you wish to name your new project. Approach this similar to a variable name, in code: descriptive but brief, no whitespace. Letters, digits, -, ., or \_ are allowed.
* Description: “Analysis of the stuff” or any short description of the project. Write this for humans.
* Public.
* Initialize this repository with: Add a README file.

Click the big green button that says “Create repository”.

Now click the big green button that says “<> Code”.

Copy a clone URL to your clipboard. If you’re taking our default advice, copy the HTTPS URL. But if you’re opting for SSH, then make sure to copy the SSH URL.

15.2.2 RStudio IDE

In RStudio, start a new Project:

* *File > New Project > Version Control > Git*. In the “repository URL” paste the URL of your new GitHub repository. It will be something like this https://github.com/jennybc/myrepo.git.
* Be intentional about where you create this Project.
* I suggest you “Open in new session”.
* Click “Create Project” to create a new directory, which will be all of these things:
  + a directory or “folder” on your computer
  + a Git repository, linked to a remote GitHub repository
  + an RStudio Project
* **In the absence of other constraints, I suggest that all of your R projects have exactly this set-up.**

This should download the README.md file that we created on GitHub in the previous step. Look in RStudio’s file browser pane for the README.md file.

Behind the scenes, RStudio has done this for you:

git clone https://github.com/jennybc/myrepo.git